

UNDERSTANDING SOCIOLOGICAL ISSUES: CONCEPTUALIZING THE DIVERSITIES

EDITOR
DR. A.H.M. ZEHADUL KARIM

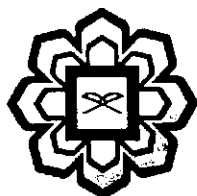
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Chapter 8

ROLE OF KUALA LUMPUR CITY HALL IN DEVELOPING KAMPUNG BHARU

Khairil Azhar Md Yassin¹

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this paper is to analyse the role of Kuala Lumpur City Hall (KLCH/DBKL) in developing Kampung Bharu. It will start with a brief explanation of the dual organizational structures existing in the area, namely the Administration Board of Malay Agricultural Settlement of Kampung Bharu (MAS), and Kuala Lumpur City Hall. This will be explained by looking at the historical records and government reports. The next section will delve into the roles played by City Hall in modernizing the settlement. Close attention will be given to the recent Kuala Lumpur Structure Plan 2020 launched by the Malaysian government. In this plan, a special chapter is dedicated to explain the government strategies, through Ministry of Federal Territories and Urban Wellbeing, to develop the 100 year old Malay community. In the final section, the paper will be concluded by examining the importance of an ethnic perspective, which is the maintenance of Malay identity and the needs to safeguard the Malay rights, in developing the settlement.

Key words: Kampung Bharu / Kuala Lumpur City Hall / Social Organization / Urban Development / Ethnic Identity

Introduction

Kampung Bharu was established by the British Government on January 12, 1900. The land was awarded by the then Sultan of Selangor, Sultan Abdul Samad and it was named as a Malay Agricultural Settlement (M.A.S). It consists of 225.89 acres of land bordering Jalan Raja Muda Abdul Aziz on the north, Jalan Dang Wangi and Ampang-Kuala Lumpur Elevated Highways (AKLEH) on the south, Jalan Tuanku Abdul Rahman on the west and Jalan Tun Razak and Klang River on the east.